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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/629,862	08/01/2000	Donald V. Perino	9797-057-999	6720

7590 04/04/2003

Pennie & Edmonds LLP
3300 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304

EXAMINER

LIU, SHUWANG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2634

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2003

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/629,862

Applicant(s)

PERINO, DONALD V.

Examiner

Shuwang Liu

Art Unit

2634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 August 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 8-16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 6, 7, 17 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5, 18, 19 and 21-26 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 August 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figure 1B should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- (1) page 2, line 19, "clock-from master" should be - -clock-from-master- -; and
- (2) page 2, line 27, "CTM'" and CFM'" should be - - CTM- - and - -CFM- -, respectively.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1-7 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1, line 4, "phase-from master" should be - -phase-from-master- -.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1, 6-7, 17, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gasbarror et al. (US 5,432,823, see IDS, paper #3).

As shown in figures 2, 3, and 6, Gasbarror et al. discloses a slave device for use in a master-slave system, comprising:

(1) regarding claims 1 and 17:

a clock node (161 in figure 6) to receive a clock signal (RCLKD);

a phase-to-master node to receive a phase-to-master phase signal (RCLK0 in figure 3); and

a phase-from-master node to receive a phase-from master phase signal (RCLK1 in figure 3).

(2) regarding claims 6 and 7:

wherein said slave device processes a single-ended phase-to-master phase

signal (figure 4A) and phase-from-master phase signal (figure 4A).

(3) regarding claim 20:

generating said phase signal from said clock signal (132 in figure 3).

6. Claims 1, 6-7, 17, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Perino et al. (US 6,426,984).

As shown in figures 5 and 7, Perino et al. discloses a slave device for use in a master-slave system, comprising:

(1) regarding claims 1 and 17:

a clock node (B) to receive a clock signal (SENSE);

a phase-to-master node (A) to receive a phase-to-master phase signal (Clock 1 3); and

a phase-from-master node (B) to receive a phase-from master phase signal (Clock 2).

(2) regarding claims 6 and 7:

wherein said slave device processes a single-ended phase-to-master phase signal (figure 5) and phase-from-master phase signal (figure 5).

(3) regarding claim 20:

generating said phase signal from said clock signal (from 72).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 8-16 are allowed.

8. Claims 2-5, 18-19 and 21-26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

9. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a master-slave system comprising a phase line connected to the phase signal generator to carry the phase signal, the phase line including a phase-to-master path to carry a phase-to-master phase signal and a phase-from master path to carry a phase-from master phase signal. Furthermore, the slave device does not include a delay-locked-loop as recited in claims.

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shuwang Liu whose telephone number is (703) 308-9556.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Chin, can be reached at (703) 305-4714.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

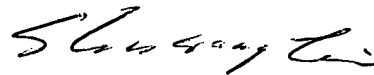
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(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



Shuwang Liu
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2634

March 28, 2003